24 March 1980

OS REGISTRY

FILE Security 14
Also: Security 18

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

25X1 FROM   : ⸻⸻⸻⸻⸻⸻⸻

SA to the DCI for Compartmentation

SUBJECT   : Non-disclosure Agreement

25X1 1. This memorandum, confirming my conversations with Ed
⸻⸻⸻⸻⸻⸻⸻ over the past week, requests that you
devote whatever attention is necessary to provide a quick
resolution of the NSA objection to a single secrecy agreement
for APEX. In my view, the NSA objection is cultural and the
problem may be insoluble. Nevertheless, NSA states that the
problem stems from their lawyers and is legal in nature.

2. The need for resolution is urgent. The Security
Committee seems to have reached an impasse. The APEX Security
Manual for Government has received NFIB concurrence less that
of NSA. I presume that the DCI will, within a few days, wish
your advice on the NSA objection. APEX, more or less, is dead
in the water until that manual is published. Planning for
implementation, training for implementation, and the beginning
of implementation all depend upon wide availability of the
manual.

3. In addition, on 5 and 6 May, control officers and
security officers of the existing compartmented systems and
people with similar functions will gather from around the world
at the CIA Auditorium to have APEX explained and to learn how to
begin to train their people to train all the federal employees
who will have some part in implementing APEX. We must know as
soon as possible what we must tell this gathering to do. The
Government Manual must be available, hopefully for them to read,
before they assemble. A new disclosure policy agreement and text
must be available, hopefully for them to read before they assemble.
Enthusiasm for APEX is rare, difficult to engender, and hard to
maintain. A good impression, consequently, must be made at the
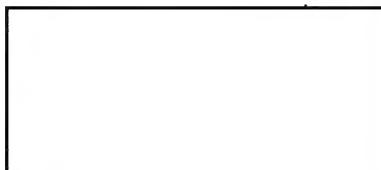5 and 6 May gathering or APEX will suffer.
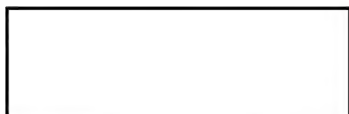
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4. I recognize, again, that knowledge of law and logic may not
be able to solve what may be basically an emotional problem. Still,
your efforts to get a quick resolution of that which can be
resolved, would be most appreciated.

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cc:

25X1 SA/DCI/C   (24 Mar 80)
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